The McLean County Arts Center presents the exhibition *Shades of Summer: Discover ParkLands* in the Armstrong Gallery from September 20 through October 26, 2013. A free and public opening reception for the exhibition will be on Friday, September 20, from 5pm to 7pm.

*Shades of Summer: Discover ParkLands* is a juried watercolor exhibition celebrating the beauty of ParkLands Foundation’s nature preserve lands. Juror Donald K. Lake, Professor Emeritus of Parkland College in Champaign, reviewed entries by professional and amateur artists over the age of eighteen and selected twenty-one watercolors by thirteen artists. Two Merit Awards and a Juror’s Choice Award will be announced during the opening reception. He states, “In its finest works, this show employs the range of techniques that medium offers, and it offers fresh and individual expressions about the natural affinity of watercolor and the natural landscape.”

Artists represented in the exhibition are: Carol Boerckel, Edward Burton, Herb Eaton, Dale C. Evans, Erin Hayden, Jan Holder, Cindy Lawson-Kester, Jeff Little, Michael J. McNeil, Deana Moore, Denise O’Brien, Peg Schickedanz, and Ellen Zauke.

Merit Awards were granted to *Dancing Tree* by Dale C. Evans and *Summer With Silence #4* by Herb Eaton.

The Juror’s Choice was awarded to *Controlled Burn* by Jeffrey A. Little.

ParkLands Foundation is a nonprofit, public membership land trust committed to preserving, protecting and ecologically restoring historic natural lands along the Mackinaw River and its tributaries. The lands are dedicated primarily for preserving the biological diversity of native plants and wildlife, and secondarily for passive public recreation, environmental educational and scientific research. Since its founding in 1967, the ParkLands Foundation has acquired, protected and restored more than 3,200 acres of prairie, savanna, floodplain forest and river habitat in the Mackinaw River valley of McLean, Tazewell and Woodford counties, and in other watersheds within McLean County. For more information, visit [www.parklandsfoundation.org](http://www.parklandsfoundation.org).

This exhibition is generously sponsored by

_Deanna Frautschi & Alan Bedell, Alexis & Mike Kalish, and ParkLands Foundation_

[Click here to view the exhibition video](#)